



HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

# Strolling through Hradec Králové



[www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky](http://www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky)





# Contents

<b>Map: Walking Routes</b>	<b>2 – 3</b>
Historical Town - Walking Route I	4 – 6
Salon of the Republic – Walking Route II	7 – 9
Stronghold – Walking Route III	10 – 12
Contemporary Architecture – Walking Route IV	13 – 15
<b>Map: Tracking Hradec Lions</b>	<b>16 – 17</b>
Short Lion Route	18 – 19
Long Lion Route	19 – 21
<b>Map: A Walk Exploring Hradec Bridges, Parks, Historical Schools</b>	<b>22 – 23</b>
A Walk Exploring Hradec Bridges	24 – 26
A Walk Exploring Hradec Parks	27 – 29
A Walk Exploring Historical Schools	29 – 31
<b>Map: A Walk Exploring Hradec Clocks, Towers and Spires</b>	<b>32 – 33</b>
A Walk Exploring Hradec Clocks	34 – 36
A Walk Exploring Hradec Towers and Spires	37 – 39
<b>Map: Planetary and Galactic Trails</b>	<b>40 – 41</b>
Planetary and Galactic Trails	42
Experience Sightseeing Trips	43
<b>Tourist Map of the City Woods</b>	<b>44 – 45</b>
Trails in the City Woods	46 – 47
Cycling Trips in the Hradecko Region	48
Hradec Králové and the Hradecko Region with Gustík Lion	49



Welcome to Hradec Králové,

the town of Czech Queens, situated at the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice, a metropolis abundant in lush greenery, the city of a unique urban concept and significant architectural buildings. The combination of beautiful architecture with water flowing in the river channels, ingeniously alternating with refreshing greenery, is an ideal setting for enjoyable walks, which the flat terrain of the Eastern Bohemian metropolis quite literally invites.

Hradec Králové is referred to as the Open-air Textbook of Architecture because the architectural sites of the city chart the building development from the Gothic era to the present day. With this in mind, we recommend that architecture enthusiasts set out on our walking routes. Marked with differently coloured stands, the four routes include Historical Town – brown, Salon of the Republic – silver, Stronghold – red and Contemporary Architecture – black.

If you want a different perspective for your sightseeing ventures, choose one of the themed walks prepared on the occasion of the European Heritage Days – focusing on towers, parks, bridges, historical schools, clocks and sundials.

Those who like searching and exploring should follow in the footsteps of the lion symbols depicted in many shapes and forms in the city streets and sometimes even inside buildings.

If you do not enjoy the hustle and bustle of the city and you prefer more natural scenery, head for the City Woods or Nový Hradec Králové and stroll along one of the many paths. The easy flat terrain is ideal for hiking and cycling.

As you can see for yourselves, the choice of walking routes truly caters for everyone, so why not experience Hradec Králové first hand and set out for a walk or saddle up your bike.

For more detailed information on the individual walks go to [www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky](http://www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky).

*Tip for cyclists: all of the recommended routes are also passable by bike, but keep in mind - in the historical centre of the city you will have to negotiate a staircase.*





# Walking Routes

Historical Town

p. 4 - 6

Salon of the Republic

p. 7 - 9

Stronghold

p. 10 - 12

Contemporary Architecture

p. 13 - 15

LABSKÁ KOTLINA I

0 m 100 m 200 m



# Walking Route I – Historical Town

## Brown Colour

The 2.5 km route around the historical town leads through the urban conservation area and takes over 1.5 hours at a gentle walking pace. The first of the 13 stops marked with brown stands can be found in Large Square close to Holy Spirit Cathedral. When strolling through the old town and its romantic spots you will be able to explore the best of Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and Classicist Styles.

### 1. Town Hall

The most famous landmark of the city, the **White Tower** 🏰 was built in 1574–80 from white sandstone (hence its name). Its interiors house the eight-tonne Augustine Bell, the third largest bell in the Czech Republic, a unique glass model of the tower and modern audio-visual equipment. The first records of Town Hall No. 1 date back to 1418. Most likely designed by Santini, the Baroque Chapel of St. Clement was built in 1714–17 on the site where the oldest original church in the town used to stand.



### 2. John Paul II Square

Holy Spirit Cathedral is the oldest preserved building in the territory of the city. Its construction started in the early 14th century with the western entrance frontage with the organ loft not being completed until 1463. The interior of the cathedral features the Late Gothic painted triptych, an altar painting of St. Anthony by Petr Brandl and a pewter baptismal font. The original Gothic **"Canon Houses" Nos. 48–52** 🏠 served as prebend for canons. Classicist building No. 60–61, which used to be owned by the Petrof entrepreneurial family, houses the Rectorate of Hradec Králové University.



### 3. Former Brewery

Despite extensive reconstruction, the **Municipal Brewery** 🏠 (currently Regiocentrum Nový pivovar, the seat of the Hradec Králové Regional Authority and other institutions) is still an interesting example of 19th century industrial architecture. The walls of the brewery cellars are decorated with stone slabs from the demolished Prague Gate and a statue of Gambrinus – the Patron Saint of Brewers. The site is connected via the staircase with Komenského Street where the cavalry and artillery barracks (now the District Court) are located.



### 4. Bono Publico Staircase

This Empire Style **Bono Publico Staircase** 🏠 connecting Komenského Street with Large Square was built at the site of the former Fishermen's Gate for "the benefit of the public" in 1810. The staircase enables access to the Karel Otčenášek Terraces. The renovation enlivened the premises with modern lighting and a subtle sound system selectable on a button control panel. The infantry barracks were constructed in 1785–88. Thanks to its vast size the inner courtyard ranked among the largest in the then Austro-Hungarian Empire. The construction of the buildings came under the project of converting Hradec Králové into a military stronghold, when on the order of Emperor Joseph II the old town was surrounded by massive defensive walls.



### 5. Jesuit College

**Episcopal Residence** 🏠 No. 35 was built in 1709–16. The originally Renaissance burgher house called **"At Špulák's"** 🏠 was the birthplace (in 1895) of František Ulrich, who later became the most prominent Mayor of Hradec Králové. The New Adalbertinum, the former Jesuit College, was built in 1671–1710. After the abolition of the Jesuit Order it was used as military barracks and later it housed a grammar school, where several outstanding personalities studied, such as K. Čapek. The Marian Column was erected in 1715–17 and carries the oldest depiction of the current emblem of the city.



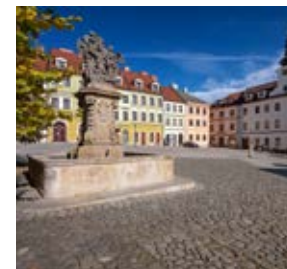
### 6. Gallery of Modern Art

Designed by the architect Osvald Polívka, the **Gallery of Modern Art** 🏠 is located in the building of the former Credit-Saving Institute, which was built in 1911–12. The neighbouring House No. 141 was designed by Vladimír Fultner and Oldřich Liska and constructed in 1910–11. The Jesuit Baroque Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary was designed by Carlo Lurago and built during 1654–66. Gočár's Stairway was constructed in 1909–10 on the site of the demolished Late Gothic Kropáčka Water Tower and designed by the architect Josef Gočár.



### 7. Small Square

Classicist **House No. 120** 🏠 is the place, where the Imperial and Royal Company of V. F. Červený & Sons was founded in 1842. It produced musical instruments, which were known throughout many countries of the world. Originally Renaissance House No. 126, reconstructed in the style of Classicism, used to be the renowned "Golden Eagle Pub", where the dramatist Václav Kliment Klicpera would direct his theatrical performances. Now it is a part of Klicpera Theatre, namely its studio stage called Beseda.



### 8. Mýtská Street

Having stood in Mýtská Street, the Late Gothic Silesian Town Gate was pulled down in 1873. Late Baroque House No. 219 was built in 1787–97 as the seat of the Corps Headquarters. The **Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren** 🏠 with a parsonage was designed by Oldřich Liska and Josef Fňouk and erected in 1911–1912. The building of the Regional Court was constructed on the plot of the former stronghold cavalier of a pentagonal ground shape, which was also preserved in the design of the architect Václav Rejchl.



### 9. L. J. Pospíšil Monument

The statue of the Deputy Mayor L. J. Pospíšil was created by Josef Škoda in 1933. The monument was placed at the site, where the demolition of the military stronghold walls was officially commenced in 1884. The building of the **Artistic Metal Work School (currently the Hotel School)** 🏠 was built in 1892–93. Situated opposite, Corner Building No. 395 used to be a Jewish Synagogue. The Constructivist building, today housing the Municipal Council of Hradec Králové, was designed by the architect Josef Gočár and constructed in 1932–36.



## 10. Žižka Park

**Žižka Park** 📍 was founded on the site of the former military exercise ground in 1905–1906. The landscape design of the three and a half hectare park was placed in the capable hands of the Prague landscape architect František Thomayer. To a large degree the planting was the work of the Association for Beautifying Hradec Králové. The monument of Jan Žižka was created by the sculptors Jiří Dušek and Jan Hejtmán in 1971. The western part of the park was not added until the mid-20th century.



## 11. Klicpera Theatre

Designed by the architect and master builder Viktor Weinhengst, the building of **Klicpera Theatre** 📍 was constructed in 1885 on the site of the former residence of the military stronghold commander and later the general hospital. Corner House No. 177 was designed as the seat of the Credit-Saving Institute by the Prague architect Václav Nekvasil, whose construction company erected the building in 1903–4. Later, a revenue authority had its offices there and in 1939 to 2013 it served as a municipal library.



## 12. At the Castle

The former **Episcopal Seminary** with the Church of St. John of Nepomuk 📍 was built in 1709–14. The site includes a Renaissance Burgrave House dating back to 1585–86, which was partially adapted in the Baroque Style. The vaulted hall of the Burgrave House was probably a part of the royal castle, which had been erected there in the 13th century and in the 14th century it had been used by Queens of Bohemia – Elizabeth Richeza and Elizabeth of Pomerania – as their seat. The whole castle complex was demolished by Hussite troops in 1423.



## 13. Svatojánské Square

Originally built in the Gothic Style, House No. 85 “At Glauers” received a Renaissance makeover in the mid-16th century. On the site of the opposite House No. 163 there once stood a Gothic building which was later adapted in the Renaissance Style. Then in 1911–12 it was rebuilt in the Pseudo-Baroque Style to the design of the architect Rudolf Němec. Art Nouveau House No. 169–171 was erected in 1909 on the spot of three structures. The author of the design was the architect Vladimír Fultner. Having stood in **V Kopečku Street** 📍 the Renaissance Prague Gate was demolished in 1875.



# Walking Route II – Salon of the Republic Silver Colour

The 3.5 km route around the modern city takes about 2 hours at a gentle walking pace. The first of the 11 stops marked with silver stands can be found in front of the Museum of Eastern Bohemia on Eliška Embankment. On the sightseeing walk exploring buildings by Kotěra, Gočár and other major architects you will be able to imagine the city at the beginning of the 20th century, referred to as the „Salon of the Republic“. This was not only due to the architecture and the unique urban concept, but also to the education, cultural and social life as well as economic development.

## 1. Museum

The **Museum of Eastern Bohemia** 📍, originally the Municipal Museum, was built to the design of Jan Kotěra between 1909 and 1913. Apart from Kotěra, other significant fine artists contributed to the interior décor, such as S. Sucharda, F. Kysela, J. Preisler and F. Anýž. Municipal House (1923), now the Information Centre of Hradec Králové, is also the work of Jan Kotěra. Two structures on Osvooboditelů Square (now the Commercial Bank) were designed by the architect Jan Rejchl (1931 - 33).



## 2. Smetana Embankment

The opposite embankment was developed in line with the master plan of the architect Josef Gočár, based on the ancient ideals of the physical and spiritual beauty of man. The museum and the non-implemented Municipal Gallery were followed up by the Sokolovna complex (1929–1930) by the architect Milan Babuška and **The City Bath House** 📍 with artificial waves (1932–1933) designed by the architect Oldřich Liska. An **Art Nouveau bridge** 📍 (1914) was built to the plan of František Sander. The Palace of Garages (1932) was designed by the architect and master builder Josef Fňouk.



## 3. Svobody Square

The square is dominated by Hradec Králové University buildings. The structure to the left (the former Business Academy, built in 1896–1897) was designed by Hubert Gessner and Otokar Bém and the later annex (1923) was the work of Hubert Gessner and Oldřich Liska. The building to the right (the former State Teachers' Institute) was erected in 1899–1900. The architecture of **Prague Bridge** 📍 over the River Elbe (1909–1910) – stone balustrades, masts, illumination and round pavilion structures on the bridgeheads were designed by Jan Kotěra.



## 4. Masaryk Square

Masaryk Square was designed in the 1920s by Josef Gočár, who also made the plan for the former Anglo-Czechoslovakian Bank (1922–23). The façade presents features topped off with a stylised letter M-shaped finish – a unique background for the **Monument of T. G. Masaryk** 📍, created by the sculptor Otto Gutfreund. Most of the residential development on the southern side of the square (1920s) was designed by the architect Oldřich Liska. The square's landmark, the former Trades House (1912) was built to the design of the architect Vladimír Fultner.





## 5. Ulrich Square

The square area was designed by Josef Gočár as the new centre of the modern Hradec Králové, which was to be a counterpoise to the old town. The symmetrical composition of the square with four tall corner buildings was created in the mid-1920s. The square is dominated by two buildings. On the northern side stands **Steinský Palace** (1928–1929), the work of the architect Otakar Novotný and the southern side features an administrative building created by Josef Gočár and originally intended as the seat of the Regional Headquarters of the State Railway (1929–1932).



## 6. Congregation of the Priest Ambrose

Designed by the architect Josef Gočár, the functionalist complex of the **Congregation of the Priest Ambrose** (1926–1928) was erected on an atypical triangular-shaped building plot. Inside the building you can see the newly developing concert carillon, which will have a total of 50 bells after its completion, making it the largest such instrument in the Czech Republic. The corner functionalist house (1939) was the work of Heinrich Kulka, a pupil and co-worker of the architect Adolf Loos. The residential blocks in front of the Congregation of the Priest Ambrose were planned as symmetrically open, the vista of the radial Střelecká Avenue is closed off by two mansions (1932), designed by the architect Oldřich Liska.



## 7. Gočár's Schools

Designed by Josef Gočár, the complex of the former **Rašín State Grammar School** (1925–1927, now **J. K. Tyl Grammar School**) captures the attention of onlookers with its angular frontage enhanced with a bronze statue of the Winner (1928) by Jan Štursa. A modern complex of elementary and council schools, including a nursery school (1927–28), yet again the work of Josef Gočár, ranked among the most modern establishments in the country in its time. The west wing of the school complex was not built until the end of the 1950s and was designed by Václav Rohlíček.



## 8. Power Station on the River Elbe

The **Hydroelectric Power Station on the River Elbe** with a radial gate weir and a bridge called Hučák (1910–1912) was designed by the architect František Sander. This unique and today still functional technical work was not completed until the early 1930s. The building's distinctive character was achieved by combining exposed brickwork and sandstone with decorative plaster. The clock tower is embellished with the Hradec Králové lion holding the letter G. The building is home to the Renewable Resources Information Centre with an interactive exposition, laboratory and virtual reality, which also provides tours of the original engine room.



## 9. Confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice

**Jirásek Park** was founded on the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice in 1867–1868. At first the park was used only by officers of the local garrison and that changed at the end of the 19th century, when it was opened to the public. The period of Hradec Králové as Emperor Joseph's military stronghold is witnessed here by several remnants of the fortification system, for example a short, two metre high tunnel called a postern. In 1934 a bronze sculpture - an allegorical depiction of the Confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice by the sculptor Josef Škoda was unveiled in Jirásek Park.



## 10. Jirásek Park

The **wooden church of St. Nicolas** was originally built in the village of Habura u Medzilaborců in the early 17th century. In the mid-18th century it was bought by the village of Malá Polana, which sold it to the city of Hradec Králové in 1935. Unveiled in 1922, the monument commemorating the writer Alois Jirásek can be found near the entrance to the park. The summer restaurant pavilion (1929–1933) was designed by the architect Jan Rejchl, who conceived the structure as the cabin of a river steamboat. The church can be visited on the dates listed on the website of the Tourist Information Center.



## 11. At Grand

The former Urban Grand Hotel is a result of the reconstruction of three buildings. The Art Nouveau **District House** (1903, 1904, now District House Hotel) was the very first construction of the architect Jan Kotěra in Hradec Králové. The corner hotel building (1928) was designed by the architect and master builder Josef Fňouk and the gala hall (1910–1911) was the work of Jan Kotěra. The Classicist building of the former Adalbertinum (1895-1897, now the seat of Hradecká kulturní a vzdělávací společnost ) was designed by the architect František Hellmann.





## Walking Route III – Stronghold Red Colour

The 5.5 km route exploring the remnants of the former Baroque stronghold takes over 2.5 hours at a gentle walking pace. The first of the 11 stops marked with red stands can be found in front of the Museum of Eastern Bohemia on Eliška Embankment. Only a few structures have been preserved from the Baroque stronghold, which was demolished after the 1866 Battle of Königgrätz, and our walking route will guide you to 20 of them.

### 1. Museum of Eastern Bohemia

Construction of the Hradec Králové military stronghold started in 1766. It consisted of eight large pentagonal bastions connected with defensive walls. The Austro-Prussian Battle of Chlum (Königgrätz) of June 3, 1866 proved that the stronghold had lost its military significance and so in 1884 it was decided to formally abandon its concept. In 1893 the city of Hradec Králové bought the structures of the stronghold and subsequently began their demolition. The **Museum of Eastern Bohemia** 📍 in Hradec Králové presents a model of the military stronghold depicting its 1865 layout.



### 2. Tyl Embankment

Before the commencement of the construction of the stronghold, the original flow of the River Elbe was regulated and the waterfront walls were lined with sandstone blocks. On the opposite bank (in front of today's museum building) the river flow was separated from the ditch by a masonry dam, which allowed the ditches to be flooded if the stronghold came under attack. On the top of the dam stood the so-called **Dolly** 📍 – a truncated stone cone which protected the wall from being breached. Today's Prague Bridge is partially built on the foundations of the former stronghold bridge.



### 3. Jirásek Park

Today's Jirásek Park was founded on the site of the former entrenchment No. 37 (from the French retranchement) between the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice in front of ravelin No. 14, i.e. a triangular fortification located in front of the curtain wall of the stronghold. Preserved structures at the park entrance gate include a part of ravelin No. 14 and **armoured casemates** 📍 for infantrymen. In the direction of the confluence stands a preserved postern - a sally port used by infantry units for raids on the enemy. The original portals can still be seen on both sides of the tunnel.



### 4. Komenského Street

Built in 1785–1788, the **Infantry Barracks** 📍, also referred to as Water ("Vodčikova") and later Žižka's Barracks, are the largest structure of the stronghold. The inner yard is even bigger than the whole area of Large Square. In view of the high level of the underground water (hence its unofficial name) the buildings were erected on piles and grids. The Cavalry Barracks were built in 1786–1787. The ground floor vaulted premises were used as horse stables while the first floor served as offices, storage rooms and accommodation quarters for the men.



### 5. U Přívozu Street

After regulating the flow of the River Orlice in 1766–1771 the waterfront walls were lined with sandstone blocks. The opposite wall contains an opening for the mouth of the former cunette of the main ditch, through which the river water was fed into the ditches or drained back. On the Orlice Embankment stands the so-called **Dolly**, a truncated stone cone which was originally located on top of a small dam wall and protected it from being breached. The structures behind Moravian Bridge include earth ramparts and the so-called **Corridor** 📍 – two gates connected with a retaining wall.



### 6. Brněnská Street

The so-called **Pivovarská flošna No. 39** 📍 and **Pajkr's flošna No. 40** (from the French flèche – arrow) were artillery outposts located at distances of approx. 650 and 500 metres respectively from the stronghold. These structures of the external stronghold perimeter were built in 1774. They were surrounded with a ditch and the roofs were made of approx. 2 m high earthwork. The original appearance of both of the casemate structures was significantly distorted by the filling of the ditches and the demolition and re-bricking of the artillery embrasures.



### 7. Jana Koziny Street

**The armoury** 📍 – an army barracks building was erected around 1780, shortly before the completion of the stronghold construction. All rooms, which for safety reasons and in view of their use have vaulted ceilings, face the street and a wide connecting service corridor leads along the courtyard side. Today the grounds house a hotel as well as the Labyrinth of Drak Theatre. Before the abolishment of the stronghold concept the building of the Realschule (today's Post-secondary Vocational Nursing School and Secondary Nursing School) was constructed in front of the armoury.



### 8. Mýtská Street

The building of the **Engineer Corps Headquarters** 📍 was erected in 1787–1797. The ground floor with vaulted premises can be entered from today's street level; the first floor used to be accessed via a side portal and through the yard. In the era of the stronghold commanders from the Hradec Králové garrison would reside there. Between 1768 and 1859 it was home to 25 of them. In the area opposite the Engineer Corps Headquarters stood cavalier No. 35. Today its site is occupied by the building of the Regional Court erected on its ground plan.



### 9. ČSA Avenue

The former **storage premises of the stronghold (today Gayer's Barracks)** 📍 date back to the late 18th century. The renovated building houses the specialist department of the Museum of Eastern Bohemia. Along the sides of the central structure there are remnants (flanks) of the original cavalier No. 33. Today's Žižka Park was founded on the site of the original military exercise ground in 1905–1906. Above the park in Dlouhá Street stands the former hospital of the stronghold. The eastern edge of the park features a statue of Ladislav Jan Pospíšil, who was greatly involved in the abolition of the stronghold concept and the demolition of the city walls.





## 10. Šimek Park

The visible remnants of the point and parts of the flanks of **ravelin No. 9** 📍 at the Faculty of Medicine of Charles University represent approx. one quarter of its original size; the rest of the area is under the walkway and yards of adjoining buildings. In front of the ravelin point one may notice a branch of the former outer ditch. The adjoining Šimek Park was set up on the bottom of the Elbe flood plain. This English-style park was designed by the architect Josef Gočár in 1925. Thanks to the extensive reclamation, its appearance was brought closer to Gočár's original intention.



## 11. Adalbertinum

Originally built in the Classicist Style in 1787–1797, the house served as residential quarters for staff officers 📍 in the stronghold era. In 1866, apart from non-combatants the garrison comprised approx. 3,600 men. After the Austro-Prussian Battle near Hradec Králové (Königgrätz) the stronghold lost its military significance and so in subsequent years a decision was taken to formally abandon its concept. The city of Hradec Králové bought the stronghold structures and began their demolition, thus opening a new chapter of its development.



# Walking Route IV – Contemporary Architecture Black Colour

The 7 km route exploring the architecture of recent decades takes about 3 hours at a gentle walking pace. The first of the 12 stops marked with black stands can be found above the Elbe Riverbank in Svobody Square. Do not hesitate to enter the modern premises of the Public Transport Terminal and the Research Library or enjoy the refreshing greenery of Šimek Park or the Karel Otčenášek Terraces amidst the bustling city.

## 1. “Náplavka” Elbe Riverbank and Sculptors’ Embankment

The walking promenade stretches directly alongside the river on a concrete wharf built more than a hundred years ago for maintenance of the Elbe riverbed. Its high quality inconspicuous design blends naturally with masterpieces of modern architecture of the early 20th century, such as **Prague Bridge** 📍 and the Museum designed by the architect Jan Kotěra. The area above the Riverbank – on Tyl Embankment and in Svobody Square – displays an outdoor gallery of sandstone statues, which are regularly exchanged in cooperation with the international sculptors’ symposium.



## 2. Administrative Centre of the Hradec Králové Region

The conversion of the grounds of the former brewery into the complex of buildings of the **Regional Authority** 📍 and University of Hradec Králové represents the largest urban architectural project of this walking route. It encompasses makeovers, conversions as well as completely new buildings erected on the sites of demolished structures. The whole area was opened up thanks to new entrances and passageways and the entirely new Pivoarské Square was set up in its centre. In its eastern side there is a staircase connecting the square with Komenského Street.



## 3. Footbridge over the River Orlice

The footbridge is made of a well-arranged light framework assembled on the site from prefabricated components. All of the metal components underwent anti-rust zinc dipping treatment. Thanks to this footbridge new routes were established in the town, enabling new views of the river and its surroundings. The footbridge spans the river close to Jirásek Park situated at the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice. Not far from here stands a reminder of the stronghold era - the Corridor – two gates connected with a retaining wall.



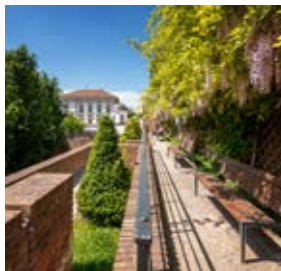
## 4. Research Library

This monumental cast concrete mass on an X-shaped ground-plan is adorned with circular windows. The building is centred around a vestibule with a breath-taking tubular stairwell made of exposed concrete, from which the individual branches with study rooms diverge along with a conference hall, exposition hall and storage area. The esthetical expression of the building is completed by trees with yellowy green leaves (Honey locust). The U Přívozu Gallery is situated in the library building.



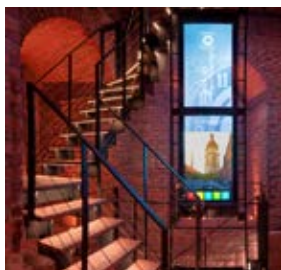
## 5. Karel Otčenášek Terraces

The Karel Otčenášek Terraces are the largest reconstructed part of the belt circling the historical core of the town, the belt where medieval fortifications once used to stand. The area is demarcated with two famous staircases offering access to the terraces – the Baroque Bono Publico and the concrete creation of Josef Gočár designed in the style of individualistic Modernism. The terraces are used as a relaxation area, perfectly demonstrating that it is possible to combine hundreds of years of on-going building development in one compact design.



## 6. Reconstruction of the White Tower and Bono Publico Staircase

Completed in 2015, the reconstruction of the **White Tower** covered not only repairs but also an entrance annex, a completely new interior design, including a staircase, retractable blinds in the windows around the bell and the installation of a glass model of the White Tower. The tower offers multi-media installations. The complete renovation of the Bono Publico Empire style staircase completed in 2019 attempted to restore the original form of the structure and at the same time enliven it with modern elements – lighting and a subtle sound system selectable on a button control panel.



## 7. Theatre Squares

A large restoration of Klicpera Theatre along with the adjoining areas and buildings involved both of the “Theatre Squares”, although the smaller of the two had not functioned as a square until then. Both places are connected by a serene passage, which is a gateway into the chamber world of playful imagination as well as simple relaxation. The site is also used as the **open-air stage of Klicpera Theatre** and features a sculpture by the sculptor Olbram Zoubek. Strolling across the square and the adjoining terraces, one can get to nearby Žižka Park.



## 8. Šimek Park Renovation

Hradec Králové's largest park designed by the architect Josef Gočár received a full-scale renovation in 2013-2014. Its target was to recreate a number of technical, architectonic and landscaping elements which make up the true character of a park. Now the park features scenic jetties with water gardens above the lake, children's playgrounds, barbecue areas, a maze near the newly repaired rotunda as well as a garden for the visually impaired at the fortification ramparts and hundreds of new trees. The park paths are suitable for walkers, cyclists and in-line skaters.



## 9. Aldis Zone

The Aldis Zone stands witness to the birth of a modern, cultural-administrative city district, which started to develop at the turn of the millennium. Its name is derived from the Aldis Congress Centre, which was the first structure to be erected in this area, together with the original indoor swimming pool. The administrative buildings are fascinating from an architectural point of view; however, the development process of this locality is far from finished. An interesting phenomenon is the newly emerging and architecturally developing pedestrian boulevard joining onto Collinova Street and ending with the footbridge across the River Elbe. Currently new buildings of the regional branch of the bank and the hotel along with newly planned public spaces will establish a pleasant municipal promenade linking the city centre, cycling paths along the River Elbe and institutions on its bank to the adjacent Šimek Park.



## 10. Public Transport Terminal

The impressive, airy space of the terminal makes up a grandiose gateway into the city, highly exceeding its regional dimension thanks to the striking design. It is dominated by two glazed departure halls and platforms covered with a pre-stressed steel structure, featuring suspended glazed lunettes and membrane tarpaulins allowing daylight to pass through. In the north the roofed area is flanked by parking spaces for buses and trolleybuses and in the south by a small public car park while along the eastern edge there is a park with benches and packed gravel pathways for pedestrians.



## 11. Rieger Square

Rieger Square is a gateway into the city for those arriving by train; therefore, the project of its restoration was prepared hand in hand with the Public Transport Terminal project. Individual car traffic was banned from the square while areas for the free movement of pedestrians were substantially increased, leaving only newly conceived city public transport stops and new passage routes. The square has been enhanced by granite paving, rows of sycamore trees and flower beds, a water fountain and sophisticated street furniture.



## 12. 28. října Square

28. října Square is an area where people used to dwell and congregate from time immemorial as a route to Prague led through here and the place itself was a natural spot for holding markets. The newly adapted square has preserved a space for markets, now roofed over with a membrane tarpaulin. Moreover, the present design has highlighted the function of the square as a crossroads of pedestrian paths, emphasised the Functionalist church and simplified passage routes for city public transport. The current revitalisation also encompassed the appearance unification of adjacent streets. In this way the newly renovated areas were connected. The third renovated area, within sight of both of the squares, is the Koruna (Crown) crossroads closing off the straight, one-kilometre long section of Gočár Avenue, which leads from the historical centre of the town.





# Tracking Hradec Lions

Short Lion Route

p. 18 - 19

Long Lion Route

p. 19 - 21





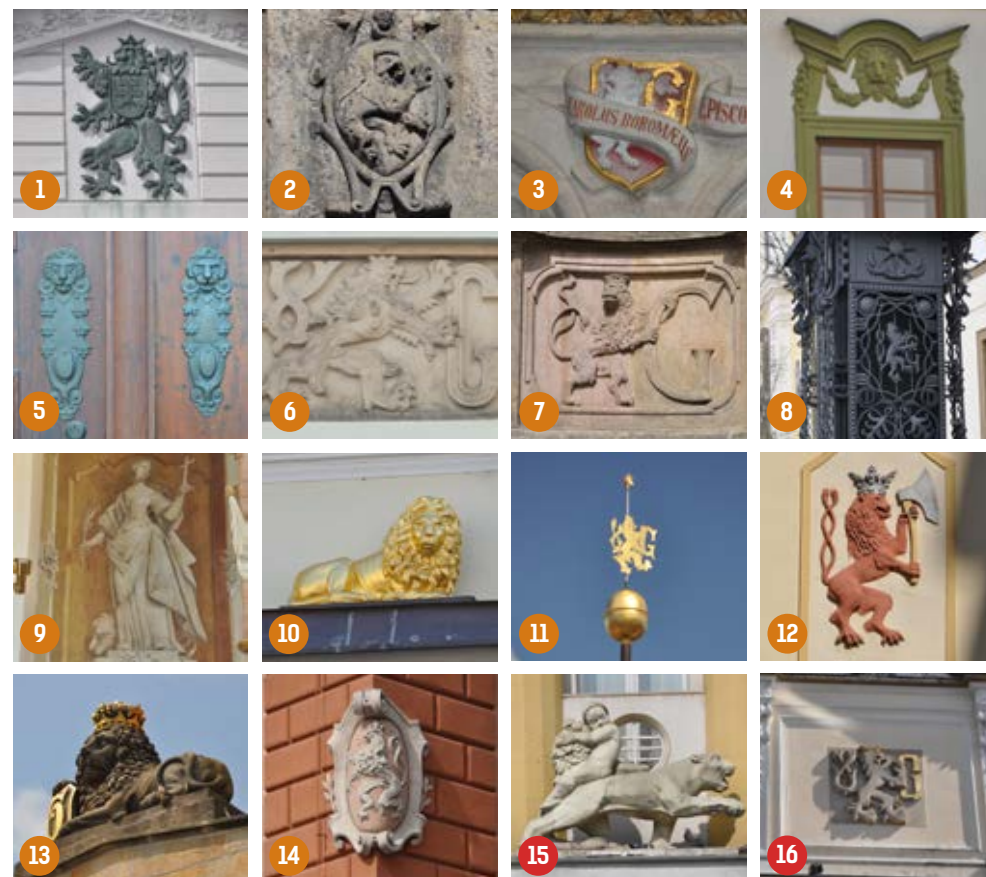
# Tracking Hradec Lions

Try both the short and long lion route. Can you manage to find the whole pride of lions? We recommend the walk to everyone who likes searching and discovering. Parents with children will also enjoy it. The book by Svatopluk Pastyřík and Helena Rezková "Tracking Hradec Lions" published in 2016 elaborated comprehensively the phenomenon that has no parallel in any other city. You won't find so many lions in such a small area anywhere else.

Why was the figure of a lion so widely used in the past as an ornament on numerous architectural structures and in public spaces in Hradec Králové? A large number of the lion symbols relate to the concurrence of the original royal emblem (and hence also the state emblem after the foundation of Czechoslovakia in 1918) and the old coat of arms of the city. Hradec Králové originally used a left facing lion (as it is on the state emblem) and the capital letter G (which comes from the original name of the city - Gradec). Contrary to heraldic rules, the lion was rotated to the right to be able to hold the letter G in its paws. In the streets of the city you can spot lions made using different materials and techniques (sandstone, sheet metal, sgraffito, painting) and in various depictions (statues, sphinxes, reliefs or just heads).

## Short Lion Route in the Historical Centre

1. Town Hall 1 features a metal relief of the Czech lion on the frontage, under it there is the town's coat of arms depicting a lion and the letter G (Gradec) next to it; the courtyard reveals the bricked-in slabs with the town lion from the former Prague Gate.
2. The town lion adorns the entrance portal to the Chapel of St Clement and the lightning conductor of the White Tower, while the Czech lion dwells on the outer surface of the Augustine Bell inside the tower.
3. Several lions can be found inside Holy Spirit Cathedral, on windows behind the high altar, on tombstones outside the Cathedral, a lion as the symbol of St. Mark is depicted on the pulpit (by J. V. Myslbek) and on the church tabernacle. Lion motifs also appear on the baptismal font.
4. Lion heads decorate Canon House No. 50 in John Paul II Square adjacent to the Cathedral.
5. More lion heads can be found on the metal fittings of the entry gate to Episcopal Residence No. 35 in Large Square.
6. The adjoining building of the Regional Military Headquarters No. 33 in Large Square bears the image of the town lion.
7. The Marian Column features probably the first coat of arms where the town lion was connected with the letter G.
8. Not far from the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary, the town lion makes up a part of the forged metal decorative grille of the fountain and the weather column.
9. Inside the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary the town lion is depicted on the pedestal of the statue of the Virgin Mary on the high altar, moreover a figure of a lion is also hiding in the Chapel of St. John of Nepomuk.
10. A lion as a house sign can be seen above the entrance to Golden Lion Pharmacy No. 29 and on the gable of the neighbouring Pseudo-Baroque House No. 30 in Large Square.
11. The town lion dwells on the lightning conductor above the dome with a lantern opening on the tower of the former Town Hall No. 124 in Small Square.
12. In Úzká Street the lion is displayed as a guild sign of butchers on House No. 206 and probably as a house sign on the neighbouring House No. 207.
13. In Zieglerova Street the lion produced in the workshop of the sculptor František Wagner looks down from the roof of the Elementary and Nursery School of John Paul II No. 230.
14. In Špitálská Street a lion adorns the corner of House No. 15



## Long Lion Route in the Modern Centre

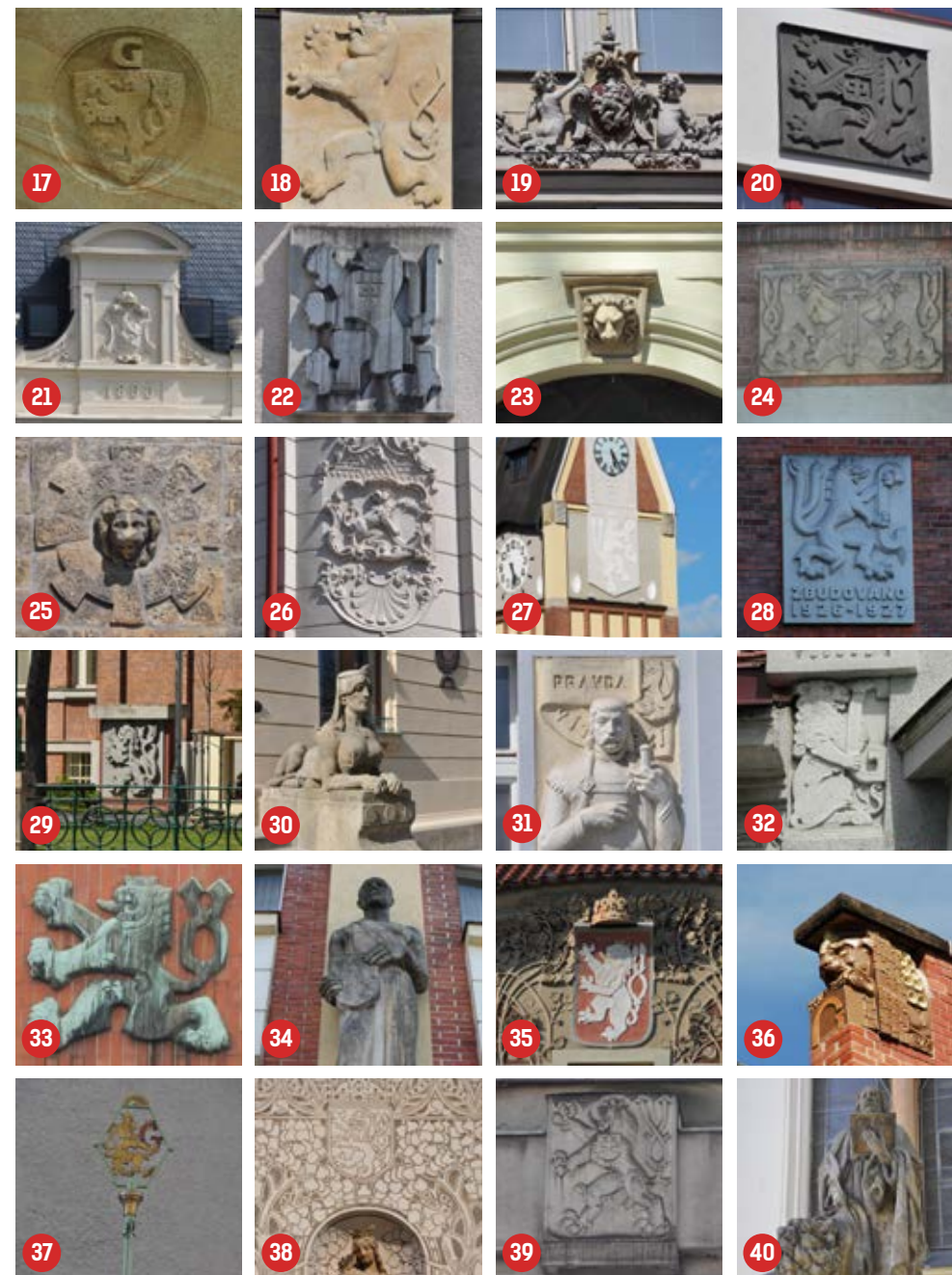
15. The front façade of House No. 556 opposite Adalbertinum on Czechoslovak Army Avenue is embellished with two lionesses carrying a child.
16. As to Adalbertinum at No. 300 Czechoslovak Army Avenue, a lion's head is situated in the voussoir above the entrance and the town lion dwells on the gable of the building.
17. The adjacent Žižka Park features the coat of arms of the town on the pedestal of the statue of Jan Žižka of Trocnov.
18. The Czech lion by Vincent Makovský can be found at the entrance to the Municipal Council at No. 408 Czechoslovak Army Avenue.
19. It is possible to spot the Czech and town lions in the oval shields, carried by two putti, at the beginning of Pospíšilova Avenue at No. 289.
20. Staying in Pospíšilova Avenue, a small state emblem of interwar Czechoslovakia created by Josef Škoda is located on the façade of the Secondary Technical School of Civil Engineering.
21. The building of the Hotel School at No. 274 Czechoslovak Army Avenue bears the town lion in the segmented gable and two lion heads next to the window on the first floor.



22. State lions are the dominating features on the side wings of the building of the Regional Court at No. 218 Czechoslovak Army Avenue.
23. A lion's head can be seen on the voussoir over the entrance to House No. 255 in Komenského Street.
24. The two lions at No. 647 Brněnská Street are portrayed as the bearers of shields with tanning symbols on a relief situated on the building of the Secondary Technical School.
25. The lion that originally adorned the former George's Fountain in Large Square now sits on the parapet of the building of the Hradec Králové Regional Authority, and can be viewed from the terraces. From Komenského Street you can see more images of this mighty beast: the town lion on the original brewery wall, several lion heads next to the Gambrinus statue and even in the shape of ornaments decorating his boots.
26. The town lion in the richly decorated cartouche draws attention to the corner of House No. 466 Chmelova Street.
27. The Hydroelectric Power Station on the River Elbe features three town lions – two on the tower under the clock and the third one on the building in the yard.
28. Another town lion dwells on the sidewall of the nearby Josef Gočár's complex of Elementary and Nursery Schools.
29. In front of the J. K. Tyl Grammar School on Tyl Embankment stands a panel with the state emblem created by Otto Gutfreund.
30. Two sphinxes and a lion's head can be seen in front of the entrance to the building of the University of Hradec Králové in Svobody Square.
31. In Nerudova Street at No. 716 not far from the Congregation of the Priest Ambrose the Czech lion peeks out from behind the relief of Jan Žižka.
32. If you have a good eye, you can spot two town lions next to the gable at House No. 542 Gočár Avenue.
33. Houses Nos. 820 and 289 (the building of the Commercial Bank) in Osvoboditelů Square are adorned with a metal sculpture and relief of a lion.
34. At No. 829 Divišova Street a figure of a man holds a shield depicting the town lion.
35. The District House Hotel at No. 409 Palackého Street is decorated with sgraffito on a wall and sphinxes on the roof parapet.
36. The roof of the building of the Museum of Eastern Bohemia features two lions holding the letter G, which can be seen from Palackého Street. Several lions dwell inside the Museum.
37. The building of the Hradec Králové Tourist Information Centre at No. 626 Palackého Street bears an image of the town lion at the top of the flagpole. A similar depiction can be spotted at nearby Prague Bridge.
38. The façade of Weinhengst House No. 310 on Eliška Embankment shows the town lion with the sign Hradec Králové and the Czech lion above the statue of Queen Elizabeth.

**If you still haven't got tired of searching for lions, venture out a little further to more distant parts of the city:**

39. As to Czech lions on Rieger Square, there is one above the Main Post Office entrance and another one in the adjoining building of the Main Railway Station embellishing the window wall above the exit.
40. A lion situated at Na Rožberku Chapel in the quarter of Slezské Předměstí symbolises Saint Mark, the Evangelist.





# A Walk Exploring Hradec

Bridges

p. 24 - 27

Parks

p. 27 - 29

Historical Schools

p. 29 - 31





# A Walk Exploring Hradec Bridges

Hradec Králové is a city at the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice. While strolling along the embankments one can admire the unique paddle steamers and the riverside promenades with their regular lively cultural events as well as bridges of various architectural styles, walkways along the riverbanks and the “Hučák” radial gate weir. Sites definitely worth visiting include the impressive building of the Museum of Eastern Bohemia, the small hydroelectric power station exposition and Jirásek Park at the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice, as well as natural banks of both rivers.

## Bridges across the River Elbe (downstream)

### 1. “Kameňák” Road Bridge at Plácky

Designed by František Sander, this Art Nouveau arch bridge with concrete parapet walls was built during 1912–1913. The bridge structure consists of a single reinforced concrete arch and represents a cultural heritage site.

*Tip: Starting on the left bank, the 26 km Hradec Králové – Kuks cycle path is a part of the long-distance Elbe Cycle Route.*



### 2. Věkoše Railway Bridge

The original steel bridge on the Hradec Králové – Týniště nad Orlicí railway route with two lattice girders and a bridge deck below was built in 1874. The bridge structure was made up of riveted rectangular frames, which supported the bridge deck. The design of the existing bridge from 1938 consists of two arches, on which the bridge deck is suspended with vertical riveted rods.

*Tip: The bridge is attached with a footbridge.*



### 3. Elbe Bridge

Built in 1972–1974, the bridge structure of the central span above the river consists of two post-tensioned reinforced concrete flat arches, longitudinally separated and supported on each bank by an inclined pillar.

*Tip: In the summer season the Elbe paddle steamers are moored not far from the bridge on the right bank of the river. Situated in 5. května Square, the children's train runs on an approx. 430 metre circular track.*



### 4. Footbridge across the River Labe

The footbridge for pedestrians and cyclists designed by the architects Libor Kábrt, Martin Elich and Gabriela Elichová will be under construction from 2021 – 2023. The structure of the footbridge consists of the combination of a reinforced concrete bridge deck (individual segments are made of the high-quality UHPC concrete), asymmetrically divided by a pillar on the Eliška Embankment and a pair of tension cables and steel ribs. The footbridge will connect the wider city centre with the developing Aldis district.



### 5. Footbridge over the Piletice Brook

The Art Nouveau reinforced concrete footbridge designed by František Sander was built in 1914. Until the early 1970s the Piletický Brook had flown into the Elbe in this very place, but during the construction of the Gočár Ring Road the stream was diverted further north (today it flows into the Elbe, approximately 500 metres upstream).

*Tip: The City Bath House – Aquacentre designed by the architect Oldřich Liska is situated behind the footbridge.*



### 6. Tyrš Bridge

Designed by Josef Gočár in the style of Functionalism, this reinforced concrete bridge was built near the Museum of Eastern Bohemia in 1932–1933. The bridge structure consists of two main parallel arches that support a slightly arched bridge deck with vertical supporting panels.

*Tip: On the right bank it is possible to get down onto the riverbank right next to the water and continue towards Prague Bridge and further on to “Hučák” Bridge near the Hydroelectric Power Station.*



### 7. Prague Bridge

Situated on the site of the former stronghold bridge, this steel truss bridge with steel railings was designed by Jan Kotěra and built during 1910–1912. The bridge structure of the main span was originally based on a three-hinge system, which was replaced with a two-hinge system in the 1980s. Listed as a cultural heritage site, the bridge is fitted with arches with lighting, flagpoles and kiosks on the right and left banks.

*Tip: On the right bank you can see the Functionalist complex of Gočár's Schools.*



### 8. “Hučák” Bridge near the Hydroelectric Power Station on the River Elbe

The Art Nouveau three-span concrete bridge with a radial gate weir and hydroelectric power station was designed by František Sander and built in 1909–1910. The bridge is fitted with metal railing fixed into concrete columns as well as with a pillar extension to control the weir. The original structure called Hučavý (Humming) Bridge was demolished in 1908.

*Tip: The power station is still functional and the building houses the Renewable Resources Information Centre with an interactive exposition, laboratory and virtual reality, which also provides tours of the original engine room.*



### 9. Bridge at the Confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice

Built in 1967–1971, this road bridge replaced the original temporary Bailey type bridge. The design of the central span above the river consists of two post-tensioned reinforced concrete flat arches with a span of 130 m, supported on each bank by a pair of inclined pillars. The shorter abutment spans on the right and the left banks form a low half-arch.

*Tip: The bridge commands wonderful views of the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice as well as distant landmarks of the town.*



### 10. Iron Single-arch Bridge in Farářství

This steel single-span bridge carries a hot water pipeline. Fitted with footbridges along its sides, the bridge structure consists of two steel arches with a bridge deck suspended by means of inclining circular rods.

*Tip: About half a kilometre downstream on the left bank of the River Elbe near the blind branch you will find the NUUK- Sauna and Rest Facilities.*



## Bridges across the River Orlice (upstream)

### 11. Footbridge across the River Orlice

Designed by Mirko Baum, this bridge for pedestrians and cyclists was built in 2012. It is a steel single-span suspended structure, connecting the city centre with the complex of the University of Hradec Králové. Not far from the bridge stands a reminder of the stronghold era – the Corridor (two gates connected with a retaining wall).

*Tip: On the opposite bank it is possible to visit Jirásek Park and stroll as far as the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice.*



### 12 Moravian Weir on the River Orlice

The steel bridge with steel railings and cast iron columns was designed by František Sander and built on the site of the stronghold bridge in 1913–1914, together with the weir and the hydroelectric power station. The bridge was rebuilt in 1953 and extended in 1994. The three-span bridge structure is based on the straight steel plate girders supported by pillars. The third span is made of reinforced concrete.

*Tip: Not far from the bridge stands the building of the Research Library.*



### 13. Malšovice Bridge

Designed in the style of Functionalism, this reinforced concrete arch bridge with an intermediate bridge deck was built on the old road to Malšovice in 1925. The single-span bridge structure consists of a pair of reinforced concrete arches partially penetrating the bridge deck suspended on the reinforced concrete rectangular rods, and the side footbridges based on the triangular reinforced concrete brackets.

*Tip: The Flošna Swimming Area is situated nearby.*



### 14. Orlice Bridge

Built in 1978–1980, the bridge structure of the central and shorter abutment spans on the right and left banks consists of two direct beams made of pre-fabricated reinforced concrete pre-stressed elements supported by reinforced concrete pillars near the bank. Shorter abutment spans are situated on the right and left banks.

*Tip: From the bridge you will see the illumination panels of the Multi-sports Stadium, which owing to their shape are referred to as "Hradec lollipops". The stadium will be undergoing major renovation from 2022 – 2023.*



### 15. "Klapák" Bailey Bridge

The temporary steel truss Bailey type bridge was built between 1947–1948 predominantly under the UNRRA post-war relief scheme. The bridge was designed by Donald Bailey, a civil servant in the British War Office, who was knighted for his bridge invention. For many years the bridge was also used for car traffic, but today it serves only for pedestrians and cyclists.

*Tip: The bridge is situated in the Orlice Natural Park. Near the bridge there is the Recreation and Sports Center Slezská plovárna which has a sauna as well as sports and boat equipment rental.*



### 16. Colonel Šrámek Bridge in Svinary

Built in 2018, the bridge with a span of 75 metres has two lane traffic and a pavement along one side. It replaced the 1907 steel truss bridge which featured a stone pillar in the centre and was built on the site of the original wooden bridge dating back to 1869.



## A Walk Exploring Hradec Parks

The symbol of the urban layout of the city of Hradec Králové is the 1926–28 Master Plan of the architect Josef Gočár (1880–1945) with a characteristic mixture of green areas wedged into residential estates. Most city parks had already been set up by that time. The foundation of the first non-public park for military officers at the confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice was contributed to by the 1866 war, which eventually brought the final demise of the Baroque stronghold. The creation of public green areas is connected with the activities of the Association for Beautifying Hradec Králové, which began its undertakings in the 1860s.

### 1. Jirásek Park

Designed by the landscape architect František Thomayer as a private park for military officers, the park was founded on the site of the general's garden in 1867–1868. The park features a restaurant pavilion (currently the Secondary School of Visual Creation) designed by the architect Jan Rejchl (1932–33), a sculpture of the Confluence of the Rivers Elbe and Orlice by the sculptor Josef Škoda (1934) and the wooden Church of St. Nicholas from the early 17th century, moved there from Slovakia in 1935. Some of the preserved stronghold structures can be found in the park as well as a children's playground.



### 2. Park at the Nursing School

From its very beginnings the complex of the Imperial and Royal Realschule, designed by Václav Weber and built in 1871–1874, contained a botanical garden which was systematically developed over time. Students and professors of the then school would grow seedlings, which the volunteers from the Association for Beautifying Hradec Králové then planted around the city. During the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, the deceased from the stronghold district had been buried in the plot of the future garden.





### 3. Voneš Park (formerly Vítězslav Novák Park)

Boasting the title of the first public park in the city, it was founded by the Association for Beautifying Hradec Králové in 1886–1887. Erected in 1889, the sandstone obelisk commemorates Jan Voneš (1841–1888), secretary of the Royal-Imperial Court, a promoter of the movement for a more beautiful city and the founder of the Association for Beautifying Hradec Králové (1885). The park was named in his honour. The soldiers who had died in the stronghold due to injuries sustained in the 1866 Austro-Prussian battle were laid to rest at this site.



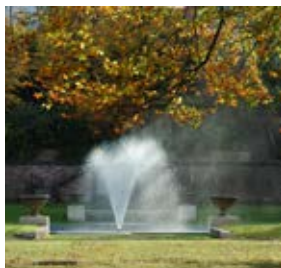
### 4. Kubišta Park

Founded in 1909, the park is located in the neighbourhood of the Institute for the Deaf and Dumb and the Convent of School Sisters of Notre Dame in the area of the former earth ramparts of the stronghold and the flood basin. The eastern side of the floodplain was flanked by the winding moat edged with the Silesian Road ("Imperial Route"), a fact witnessed today by the unusually twisted path. During World War II, a public air raid shelter was set up in the southern part of the park. The park gained its current name after the Cubist painter and graphic artist Bohumil Kubišta in 1992.



### 5. Žižka Park

Located in the area of the former military training ground under the terraces of the old town, the park was designed by the landscape architect František Thomayer and established during 1904–1906. The year 1933 witnessed the unveiling of the Ladislav Jan Pospíšil monument created in the artistic workshop of the sculptor Josef Škoda, commemorating the beginning of the stronghold demolition in 1884. The western part with the Jan Žižka of Trocnov monument was not joined to the park until the mid-20th century.



### 6. Šimek Park

Šimek Park was set up in the Piletice Brook flood plain of the former stronghold. Some of the fortification elements have been preserved and incorporated into the park. The landscaping work took place in 1932–35 and was also participated in by the architect Josef Gočár and his atelier. In 1990 the park was named after Karel Šimek who died during a resistance operation against the Nazis. In 2012–13 the park received a full-scale renovation. The park offers two playgrounds, a skate park, outdoor barbecue facilities and refreshments in the original rotunda building.



### 7. Park Landscaping of 5. května Square

The northern front of 5. května Square is formed by the unique Functionalist Palace of Novák's Garages designed in the early 1930s by the architect Josef Fňouk, who also prepared the landscaping plan for the adjacent area of today's 5. května Square. Josef Gočár put forth an idea of placing a theatre building in the centre of the square, but this idea was finally abandoned in the 1950s. In the summer season, weather permitting, the children's train runs on an approx. 430 metre circular track in the square and Elbe paddle steamers are moored at the nearby Elbe riverbank.



### 8. Architect Liska Park

Founded in 1940–41, the park is located in the precinct of open residential blocks constructed together with the Congregation of the Priest Ambrose. On this site Josef Gočár gradually created a unique urban composition with the church in the vertex and the apartment buildings forming the imaginary legs of an isosceles triangle. Individual buildings were then designed by several notable architects such as Jindřich Kulka and Oldřich Liska. Listed as a cultural heritage site since 2018, Liska's Functionalist mansion with an atelier (No. 824) is one of the highlights of his work.



## A Walk Exploring Historical Schools

School buildings represent one of the symbols of the development of Hradec Králové after the liberation from the restricting grip of the Baroque stronghold. Over the almost 90 years that followed, construction of school buildings was financed by the city, as well as the state or church, but they always received significant support from the city.

The theme of the Hradec Králové school system is also dealt with in the book "Journey of Girls to Education" by Pavla Koritenská, published in 2013 by the Museum of Eastern Bohemia in Hradec Králové.

### 1. Rašín State Grammar School (Rašín Czechoslovak State Grammar School), now J. K. Tyl Grammar School

Constructed in 1925–1927, the building was designed by Josef Gočár in the style of Czech architectural Modernism, combining exposed brickwork with prevailing vertical segmentation and hard contrasting plaster. The building is complemented with two works of art - the statue of the Winner by Jan Štursa and a relief with the state emblem by Otto Gutfreund, both originally displayed in the Czechoslovak Pavilion at the International Exhibition of Modern Decorative and Industrial Arts in Paris in 1925.



### 2. Masaryk Elementary and Council Schools

Designed by Josef Gočár, the building was constructed as part of the school complex on a U-shaped ground plan in 1925–1928. The opposite building, symmetrical with respect to the longitudinal axis passing through the Nursery School, was built after the end of World War II. The building was designed in the style of Czech architectural Modernism, combining exposed brickwork and hard contrasting plaster. The main element is the horizontal paired windows which were the precursor of Gočár's future architectural development.



### 3. Zálabí Elementary School, now Josef Gočár Elementary School and Nursery School

The building forms the second part of the architect Josef Gočár's architectural project of the school complex. It was constructed in 1956–1959 and designed by the architect Václav Rohlíček, respectfully keeping to Gočár's urban plan and the architectural expression of the entire area. Situated near the school on the bank of the River Elbe, the public Parkour training area offers not only typical obstacles but also workout elements.



### 4. Nursery School, now the School Canteen of the Josef Gočár Elementary School and Nursery School

Built in 1928, the Nursery School was designed by Josef Gočár as the first building of his final period of architectural creation in Hradec Králové - Functionalism. One may consider it a neglected architectural "gem" that makes up the axis of the school complex. In the actual inner area of the semi-closed block of school buildings it opens up in all directions with its exposed terrace. Until the second half of the 20th century there used to be a tall chimney and the school evoked the image of a deck and the captain's bridge of an ocean liner.



### 5. State Vocational Tannery School, now Hradec Králové Secondary Technical School, Secondary Vocational School and Secondary Vocational Training Institute

Designed by the architect Josef Gočár in the style of Czech architectural Modernism, the school building was constructed in 1923–1924. The sculptures of a tanner and skinner created by the sculptor Josef Škoda in 1930 can be seen at the main entrance. The school grounds used to encompass the school building, a tannery for practical lessons and a separate house for the director.



### 6. Borromaeum, now Bishop Grammar School of Bohuslav Balbín

A new building for the boys' church boarding school was designed by the master builder Viktor Weinhengst and erected by him in 1900–1902. The symmetrical two-story building with Neo-classical elements featuring bossage on its lower part is divided by the giant order pilasters conceived by the master builder in the "cheaper Baroque Style", in contrast to the then school buildings designed in the "more costly Renaissance Style".



### 7. Realschule, now Post-secondary Vocational Nursing School and Secondary Nursing School

Designed by Karel Weber, the Realschule building with a letter E-shaped ground floor plan was constructed on the site of a former military warehouse in 1871–1874 as the first major public building in the Neo-Renaissance Style, characterized with continuous ledges and hood mouldings, principal moulding with consoles, garlands and a pair of pilasters and entablature. The remarkable three-flight staircase is situated in the middle of the building.



### 8. Artistic Metal Work Vocational School, now Hradec Králové Hotel School

Constructed in the Neo-Renaissance Style in 1892–1893, the school building was designed by Tomáš Suhrada and became the first building to be completed in line with the 1890 Master Plan. The central avant-corps of the street façade is topped off with a striking dome. The forged gates, corner lanterns, decorative grilles and other metal articles are the work of pupils and teachers of the school.



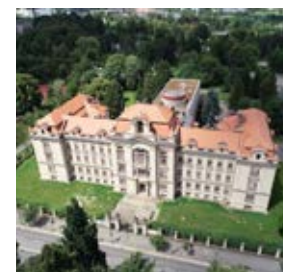
### 9. Drtina Elementary and Council Schools, now Grammar School of B. Němcová

Designed by Václav Bahník and Tomáš Suhrada, the monumental building of the school was built in the Neo-Renaissance Style in 1896 - 1899. Two unequally long wings facing Pospíšilova and Šimkova Street are connected by a third angled wing. The corner sections of the main wings highlighted with the quoins on the frontage are topped off with mansard roofs, which dominate the whole school building.



### 10. Rudolfinum Institute for the Deaf and Mute, now the Business Academy, Secondary Vocational School and Language School Licensed for State Language Examinations, Hradec Králové

Situated on a plot lined with a tall fence, the new building of the Diocesan Institute for Deaf and Mute Children was designed by Arnošt Jenčovský and constructed in 1901–1902 in the Neo-Baroque Style, which is manifested not only in the symmetry of the building and the use of architectural forms, but also in the composition of the frontage and the internal layout.



### 11. State Technical School in Hradec Králové, now Secondary Technical School of Civil Engineering

Constructed in 1929–1931, the building was designed by Jan Rejchl in the style of Functionalism. The characteristic expressive features of this building are strip windows running in horizontal belts and a smooth façade without any other architectural elements apart from the entrance portico. The interior features the preserved corridors and classrooms, including floors, doors and built-in furniture.



## School in the Quarter of Kukleny

### 12. Vocational School of Farming and Economy, now Kukleny Secondary Vocational Veterinary School

Erected in 1921–1923, the new building of the Vocational School of Farming and Economy was designed by a prominent Czech architect and Professor of the Czech Technical University in Prague, Theodor Petřík, Head of the Institute of Agricultural Civil Engineering at the University of Agricultural and Forestry Engineering in Prague.





# A Walk Exploring Hradec

Clocks str. 34 - 36

Towers and Spires str. 37 - 39

0 m 100 m 200 m



# A Walk Exploring Hradec Clocks

Time has and always will be an important factor for the human race. If you are interested in clockworks, clock faces and sundials, take the walk focusing on Hradec clocks. It will guide you to remarkable places in the city centre, and if you have the time and the inclination, you can also include the outskirts of Hradec Králové.

For more detailed information, see the book "Sundials in the Hradec Králové Region" written by Miloš Nosek and published in 2015 by the Helena Rezková Publishers.

## 1. Clock on the Tower of the Main Railway Station

Designed by the architect Václav Rejchl and constructed in 1929–35, the building of the Main Railway Station is adorned with Josef Škoda's sculptures of runners carrying torches. The clock tower is 46 m high. The hands and even the dial markings on the clock shine in the dark. The Rieger Square major restoration project, which encompasses the Railway Station building, was prepared hand in hand with the project of the adjoining Public Transport Terminal.



## 2. Sundial on the Courtyard of the Building of the University of Hradec Králové, Svobody Square

Made in 1911, the second oldest sundial in the town has been repaired several times since then. The dial is located on the wall facing the vestibule not open to the public, but it can be seen from the adjacent Fairy Tale Park or through the trees from V Lipkách Street. The question remains, as to who made the original sundial and which technique he applied. In his creative design the artist was inspired by the silhouette of the Hradec Králové "Old Square", in the direction of the fountain.



## 3. Clock on the "Hučák" Power Station on the River Elbe

Designed by the architect František Sander in the Art Nouveau Style, the Hydroelectric Power Station on the River Elbe was built on a letter L-shaped ground plan between 1909 and 1912. The clock on the station is the original. The available documentation tells us only that the clockwork received a major overhaul in 1967. The gable of the tower with a mansard roof features an embossed plaster town emblem under the clock dial. The building is home to the Renewable Resources Information Centre with an interactive exposition, laboratory and virtual reality, which also provides tours of the original engine room.



## 4. Clock on the White Tower

The White Tower was completed in 1596. The original clockwork dating from 1591 was made by Master Vavřinec of the New Town of Prague and was replaced by the clockwork created by the mechanic and clocksmith Josef Božek in 1829. Božek's device was later restored and today it is displayed in the White Tower exposition. Nowadays, the clock on the White Tower is operated by modern electric equipment. Clock faces can be found on all four external sides of the White Tower. There is something of a rarity as the small hand points to minutes and the large one to hours.



## 5. Town Hall Clock in Large Square

The clock (astronomical clock), originating from the Church of St. Anthony destroyed by the Swedes, was moved onto a newly built spire in 1696. It was adapted into a partial astronomical clock by Hradec clocksmith Václav Čech. Due to the bad condition and the risk of collapsing, the spire was torn down after some time and the clock was placed in the middle of the Town Hall roof. In 1786–1789 the Town Hall was enlarged with two towers where the clocksmith František Šmíd installed clocks and cymbals from the original wooden spire. Nowadays, the towers house electric clockwork.



## 6. Sundial on Šatlava Residence, Dlouhá Street Nos. 101 – 103

A sundial has been adorning the courtyard of this historical building since 2007. The lower part of the face contains Roman numerals and marks denoting each half hour. The middle part displays the actual dial with hour and half-hour lines. Three calendar lines are marked with signs of the zodiac. A calendar date is situated near the hyperbolas which correspond to the solstices. In the sunlight it is possible to determine the calendar date from the position of the shadow of a "small cylinder" between these lines.



## 7. Clock on the Town Hall on Small Square

Built in 1863, the clock tower, which is completed with an onion dome with a lantern opening, was designed by the master builder Dobrkovský. The incentive for the construction of the tower was probably down to a missing clock. The original mechanical clockwork is kept in the Museum of Eastern Bohemia in Hradec Králové, as is the second time-keeping device from the early 20th century. Nowadays, the tower features a new clock face with electric clockwork.



## 8. Vertical Cylindrical Sundial on Small Square

Conceived as a sculptural interactive element by its creators Jan Pospíšil and Vlasta Samohrdová, the sundial was installed in Small Square during its renovation. It is a vertical cylindrical dial which functions on the principle of measuring the Sun's angle of elevation in different seasons. Its interactive conception lies in the necessity of first having to set the dial, following the instructions on the ring of the sundial. As it is essential to rotate the dial towards the Sun, this type of device is common mainly in a portable version, where this prerequisite is achieved by turning the hinge.



## 9. Sundial on the Orlice Embankment, Nezvalova Street No. 377

Placed on the mansion commissioned by Karel Viewegh, the oldest Hradec sundial dates back to 1903 and bears the Latin inscription "Fiat voluntas tua" (Thy Will Be Done). The sundial was redesigned most probably in 1969. Until 2012 the spacing of the digits in the ribbon-shaped dial did not correspond to the wall azimuth. The then repair of the façade resulted in the sundial losing everything but the pointer and the embossed ribbon. In 2014 a new dial was painted and a new pointer was installed.





## Clocks in the City Outskirts

### 10. Clock on the Monastery Church of St. Anne in Kukleny

The Late Baroque Church from 1777–1784 was designed by the architect M. Walch. Originally the church belonged to the Order of Friars Minor, who lived in the adjacent building. The structure does not respect the east to west orientation, the frontage with two towers topped off with onion domes faces south into the square. The village of Kukleny was founded in 1776 on the site of the old "Kuklena" settlement for the residents of the demolished Pražské Předměstí Quarter.



### 11. Clock on the Church of St. Anthony, the Hermit in Nový Hradec Králové

The Late Baroque church was built by the master builder of Hradec Králové František Kermer during 1769–74. The clock was installed on the tower in 1791 and was replaced with a new one in 1904. Originally designed as a hospital church, the building was to serve as an orientation landmark on the old imperial road. The village of Nový Hradec Králové was founded in 1766 for the residents of the demolished Slezské Předměstí Quarter.



### 12. Clock on the Church of St. Paul in Pouchov

During the construction of the Hradec Králové stronghold, the Church of St. Paul in Hradec Králové (dating back to before 1510) was dismantled and transported to Pouchov. It was built at its new location by the master builder J. Kurz during 1780–1791, the older part was still in the Baroque Style, while the newer sections (1832–33) were in the style of Early Classicism. The original tower was added in 1832–1833 and the church was extended. The existing tower was erected in 1868.



### 13. Sundials in front of the Observatory and Planetarium, Zámeček No. 456

There are actually two sundials here: the first one is an analemmatic sundial equipped with a dial of an elliptical shape and digit markers from 4 to 20. To make telling the time possible a calendar scale is displayed on the axis of the ellipse situated in the direction of the local meridian line (connecting north to south). For an accurate indication of the time the perpendicular gnomon must be at the position corresponding to the calendar date. It is very impressive, when this gnomon is the actual observer – a person.



The second sundial has an interesting and unique shape – as it looks like an alarm clock. It is the equatorial sundial where the plane of the dial is parallel to the plane of the equator. Telling the time should be enabled via a perpendicular gnomon, which however for safety reasons has not been installed on a permanent basis. The sundial is functional from the spring to the autumnal equinoxes at any time the Sun is in the sky.



### Sundials on Family Houses in Residential Quarters:

Kubelíkova Street No. 481, Kyjovská Street No. 566, Mandysova Street No. 1408, Miroslava Hájka Street No. 356, Na Zahrádkách Street No. 199

## A Walk Exploring Hradec Towers and Spires

In the past towers and spires served various purposes. For example they used to be incorporated in the fortification systems – as watchtowers and various events would be announced from them – such as sounding the fire alarm by trumpet or chiming the hour of the day. Those located at the entry to the town often housed a customs office, while others served as a bell tower, warehouse or water reservoir or sometimes they were even used as prisons.

### 1. Building of the Main Railway Station – Rieger Square

Construction of the new building of the Hradec Králové Main Railway Station, designed by Ing. Arch. Václav Rejchl, began in 1929. The main frontage of the station building features the eye-catching protruding square tower with a clock. On the 4th floor level there is a room with water supply fittings and the lift engine room. The upper part of the tower was designed as a water tower containing drinking and sanitary water tanks.

[www.ceskedrahy.cz](http://www.ceskedrahy.cz)



### 2. Church of the Sacred Heart of Our Lord – 28. října Square

The church was built between 1928 and 1932 to commemorate the fallen soldiers of the Hradec Králové diocese in World War One. Designed by the architect Bohumil Sláma, it represents the style of Functionalism, or more precisely its offshoot – Constructivism. The monumental square tower houses two bells and is completed with a six metre high concrete cross.

[www.farnosthkpp.cz](http://www.farnosthkpp.cz)



### 3. Congregation of the Priest Ambrose of the Czechoslovak Hussite Church – Ambrožova Street

Designed by the architect Josef Gočár, the set of buildings for the Czechoslovak Hussite Church was erected on a triangular-shaped building plot in 1926–1929. The dominant feature of the whole complex is a 30 m high square tower, which stands separately from the actual church but is connected with it at the height of the first floor via a covered bridge, which leads to the organ loft. The tower is used as a belfry. Inside the church building you can see the newly developing Hradec concert carillon, which will have a total of 50 bells after its completion, making it the largest instrument of its kind in the Czech Republic.

[www.ccsstk.cz](http://www.ccsstk.cz)



### 4. Museum of Eastern Bohemia (Dome) – Eliška Embankment

Constructed in 1908 – 1912, the monumental building of the Museum was designed by the architect Jan Kotěra. The iron structure of the dome in the shape of a stepped truncated cone has a glazed circular ceiling on the top. Decorative features on the dome were crafted by Hradec master tinsmiths – Antonín Fišer and Antonín Fait, who also carried out ordinary sheet metal work. After the complete reconstruction of the building's shell, the terrace near the dome on the roof of the museum is now accessible.

[www.muzeumhk.cz](http://www.muzeumhk.cz)



### 5. Hučák Hydroelectric Power Station on the River Elbe – Křižíkova Street

The Hučák small hydroelectric power station was built in the Art Nouveau Style in 1909–1912. The main architect was František Sander, but Jan Kottěra and Josef Gočár also participated in the construction of the plant. The lateral shorter wing with a striking tower flanks the radial gate weir. The tower houses mysterious clockwork and a bell. The gable of the tower with a mansard roof features an embossed plaster emblem of the town. The building is home to the Renewable Resources Information Centre with an interactive exposition, laboratory and virtual reality, which also provides tours of the original engine room. [www.cez.cz/hucak](http://www.cez.cz/hucak)



### 6. Kozinka Water Tower – Pivovarské Square

Originally called Peter's or Water Tower, this structure was renamed Kozinka Water Tower after it burnt down and was newly reconstructed in 1431. From the late 15th century, it used to pump water from the River Elbe and then distribute it further to the town water pumps via a wooden and later also cast iron pipeline. In winter the water tank in the tower used to be heated from beneath. Today Kozinka Water Tower is a part of the complex of the Regiocentrum Nový pivovar. [www.kr-kralovehradecky.cz](http://www.kr-kralovehradecky.cz)



### 7. Holy Spirit Cathedral – Large Square

The majestic Gothic brick building of the Cathedral Church of the Holy Spirit was founded by Queen Elizabeth Richeza in 1307. The 1484 fire damaged mainly the towers and during their subsequent repair they were raised by one level and received new bells. In 1901 they were fitted with pyramidal roofs. The oldest of the four bells, Leopold (Dominik), dates back to 1485. Upon the establishment of the Episcopate in 1664 the church was promoted to a cathedral. Busts of the Queens of Bohemia - Elizabeth Richeza and Elizabeth of Pomerania were installed in the royal antechamber in 2007.

[www.dekanstvihk.cz](http://www.dekanstvihk.cz)



### 8. White Tower – Large Square, Franušova Street

The Renaissance White Tower is the highest landmark of the city and its observation deck commands beautiful views not only of Hradec Králové itself but also of the distant peaks of the Krkonoše and Orlické Mountains. Its construction commenced in 1574 and the tower gained its current appearance in 1729. Named after the brightly coloured Hořice sandstone used as building material, the tower houses the third largest bell in the Czech Republic (Augustine), the original clockwork by Josef Božek as well as a unique glass model of the tower and modern audio-visual equipment.

[www.bilavez.cz](http://www.bilavez.cz)



### 9. Town Hall No. 1 – Large Square

The first reference to the Town Hall dates back to 1418. A wooden clock tower was built in 1696 and was replaced with two new towers with clocks which were put into operation in 1790. After the Late Classicist makeover (1851–1852), based on the plans of the architect K. Wittmann and implemented by the master builder Fr. Dobrkovský, the building was used for offices of the Regional Court, District Attorney and the Regional Authority.



### 10. Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary – Large Square

The Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary in Large Square is a single-nave structure with two flanked chapels and an ornately decorated frontage with two side towers. Proceeding from the design of Carlo Lurago, the Jesuits started the construction of the church in 1652 and both towers were erected in 1661. Situated in the western tower adjoining the former Jesuit College, the bell dedicated to the Virgin Mary was the only item to survive from the towers after several fires and a variety of other historic events.

[www.kostelpmhk.cz](http://www.kostelpmhk.cz)



### 11. Former Town Hall No. 124 – Small Square

Standing out as a landmark in Small Square, the building received its existing appearance in the Classicist Style in the 19th century. Added in 1863, the clock tower, which is completed with an onion dome with a lantern opening, was designed by the master builder Dobrkovský. The incentive for the construction of the tower was probably down to a missing clock, since the building was used as the Town Hall from 1850 to 1932. During the 1994 makeover the roof was taken down together with the tower and subsequently they were replaced.



### 12. Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren – Nezvalova Street

The complex of the Evangelical Church with a tower and adjacent parsonage was officially opened in 1912. Designed by the architect Oldřich Liska, this atypical Art Nouveau building also contains elements of other styles such as Classicism and features floral motifs and even three camels. The tower visually separates the church and parsonage. The shape of its roof should resemble a Hussite helmet with its peak being adorned with a motif of a mace.

<https://hradec-kralove.evangelnet.cz>



## There are more towers and spires waiting to be explored in other parts of the city:

13. Church of St. Peter – Petra Jilemnického Street, Plotiště

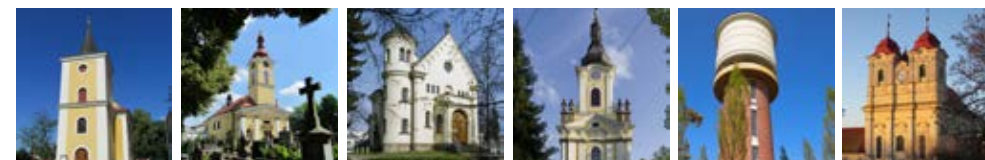
14. Church of St. Paul – Velká Street, Pouchov

15. “Na Rožberku” Chapel of the Immaculate Conception – Slavičková Street, Slezské Předměstí

16. Church of St. Anthony, the Hermit – Svatováclavské Square, Nový Hradec Králové

17. Water Tower – Husova Street, Nový Hradec Králové

18. Church of St. Anne – Denisovo Square, Kukleny







Planetary Trail

p. 42

Galactic Trail

p. 42

0 m 100 m 200 m



# Planetary and Galactic Trails

The trails start in Nový Hradec Králové at the Observatory building. If you wish to use city public transport, take trolley Bus No. 1 and get off at the Kluky Planetarium bus stop. Both trails have been set up by the Observatory and Planetarium in Hradec Králové, in cooperation with the Astronomical Society in Hradec Králové.

[www.astrohk.cz](http://www.astrohk.cz)

## Planetary Trail

The trail is a model of our Solar System at a scale of 1 to 1 billion. Both the dimensions (of models of the Sun and planets) and the distances one has to walk between them correspond to this scale. At each of the 13 stops you will find a small ball representing a planet and an information board with basic data and points of interest. The overall length is 6.5 km and it partially leads through the City Woods.

Walking along the trail, you will learn not only about the bodies of the Solar System, but at the same time you will be able to admire the picturesque landscape of the city quarters. The route runs from the Observatory past Datlík, Cikán and Biřická Ponds to the terminal station of public transport lines Nos. 1 and 2 in Nový Hradec Králové and optionally as far as the forest cemetery.

The popular Water Sprite Trail leads along one section of the Trail among the ponds and also presents educational boards about the pond systems..

**Stops:** 1 - Sun, 2 - Mercury, 3 - Venus, 4 - Earth, 5 - Moon, 6 - Mars, 7 - Ceres (Dwarf Planet), 8 - Jupiter, 9 - Halley's Comet, 10 - Saturn, 11 - Uranus, 12 - Neptune, 13 - Pluto

## Galactic Trail

The Galactic Trail presents the eleven most well-known celestial bodies in our Galaxy (Milky Way) and one neighbouring galaxy called the Large Magellanic Cloud. The distances between the individual stops and the sizes of the bodies depicted on information boards correspond to the scale of 1:170 quadrillion. The overall length is 9.5 kilometres.

The route leads from the Observatory to the church in Nový Hradec Králové, along a road renowned for its panoramic views of the landscape. In good weather you will be able to see the city of Hradec Králové stretching around and in the distance the battlefield of Chlum, Krkonoše Mountains and Orlické Mountains. From the church the trail continues through the dense City Woods as far as the picturesque village of Bělečko.

**Stops:** 1 - Proxima Centauri and Sirius, 2 - The Pleiades Star Cluster, 3 - Antares the Red Giant, 4 - Great Nebula in Orion, 5 - Ring Nebula, 6 - Trifid Nebula, 7- The Crab Nebula, 8 - The Star Cluster h and chi Persei, 9 - M 22 Globular Cluster, 10 - M 13 Globular Cluster, 11 - Central Black Hole, 12 - Large Magellanic Cloud

*Tip: Visit a three-dimensional projection of the starry sky, educational video-films, interactive and static expositions and observation of the night sky bodies.*



# Experience Sightseeing Trips

You can explore the city not only on foot or from the saddle of a bicycle, but also from the comfort of the deck of a paddle steamer or the seat of a tourist land train. On the website of the Tourist Information Centre you can find a number of guided tours. You will also learn how the names of streets and squares changed during history. If you are not satisfied with just observing the world around you, you can go back to the Middle Ages and track down some vanished ecclesiastical buildings. Experience sightseeing trips are seasonal so we recommend visiting the websites below to check availability.

## Guided Tours of the City

The events calendar on the website of the Tourist Information Centre offers a number of guided tours during the year. Some are conducted by tourist guides; others have been prepared by individual institutions and experts. It's up to you whether you choose a classic sightseeing walk or prefer a thematic experience tour. Visit the website [www.hkinfo.cz](http://www.hkinfo.cz).

## Special Tours of the White Tower

In addition to classic tours, the Renaissance monument also offers unique experiences. You can enjoy sunrise at the White Tower, night tours, ringing the Augustin Bell, bell ringers' ceremony as well as seasonal tours referring to traditions or tours animated by costumed characters. See the tour dates and make a reservation on [www.bilavez.cz](http://www.bilavez.cz).

## Elbe Paddle Steamers

The almost hour-long round trip aboard one of the paddle steamers, aptly named Hradec, Queen Elisabeth, Mayor Ulrich and Pirate's Sailboat, mooring on the right bank of the River Elbe opposite the City Municipal Spa - Aquacentre, offers unique views of Hradec landmarks and romantic spots on the riverbanks from the water. For more information or make a reservation, go to [www.paroplavba.wz.cz](http://www.paroplavba.wz.cz).

## Historical Transformation of the City

The names of some streets and squares changed frequently during the 19th and the 20th century. The tour of the historical transformation of the city consists of 19 stops marked on the map. The tour has been prepared by the University of Hradec Králové on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the establishment of independent Czechoslovakia. Find more information and download the map at [www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky](http://www.hradeckralove.org/prochazky).

## Hradec Králové Architecture Manual

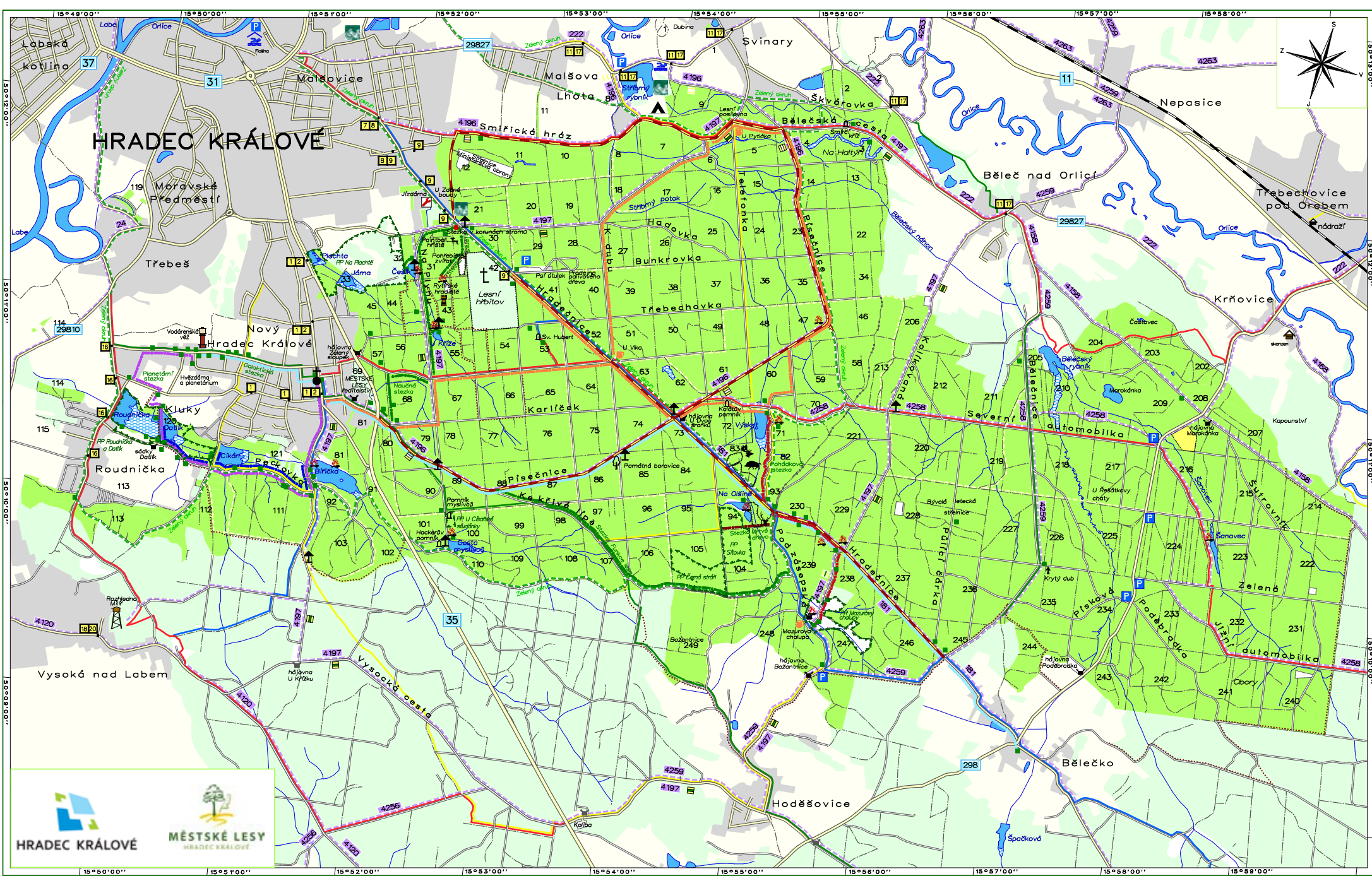
The unique online database documents contemporary architecture, famous buildings and undiscovered and hidden gems, along with architects, developers and valuable public spaces. [www.kam.hradeckralove.cz](http://www.kam.hradeckralove.cz)

## Wandering in Search of Medieval Churches and Monasteries

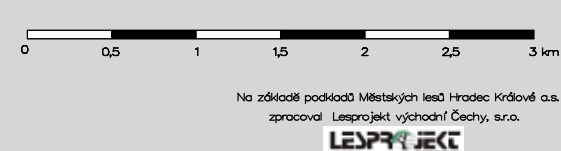
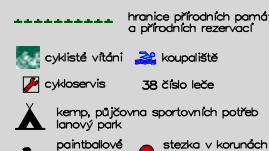
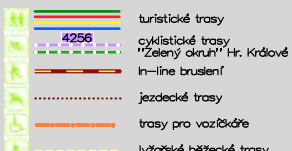
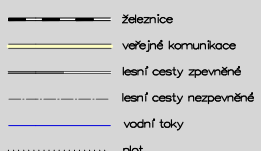
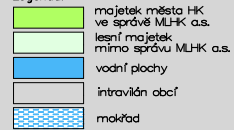
The medieval history of the town can be explored rather untraditionally – with the help of a book written by Radek Bláha describing vanished ecclesiastical buildings. This publication can be purchased at the Tourist Information Centre.







#### Legenda:



LESPP JEC



# Trails in the City Woods

The City Woods are very popular grounds for leisure activities. You can get a tourist map of the city woods at the Tourist Information Centre, at the Stříbrný rybník (Silver Pond) Campsite or download it from the website. You can look forward to educational and fairy tale trails, cycleways of various ratings as well as facilities for in-line skaters, sports people, tourists or even horse riders. In addition there are forest wildlife areas, the Knight's Fortress, a forest gym, a rope-climbing park, arbours, benches and tables for moments of relaxation and in winter maintained tracks for cross-country skiers. In summer you can enjoy swimming in Stříbrný rybník (Silver Pond) or Biříčka Pond or have a barbecue and siesta at one of the public fireplace areas. [www.mestske-lesy.cz](http://www.mestske-lesy.cz)

## Fairy Tale Trail

Full of stories with secrets and interesting facts about forests, the unique Fairy Tale Trail is approximately 2.5 km. It starts at Mazura Cottage and ends at Výskyt Pond. Step by step amidst beautiful nature, visitors will get to know the fairy tales and characters created by the fine artist and writer, Marta Pohnerová, such as Twig – the Dragon, Šišule – the Magician and the Blueberry Fairy. The individual stories on the panels are accompanied by characters sculpted by a local wood carver. A public fireplace area can be found at the start and at the end of the trail.

## Water Sprite Trail

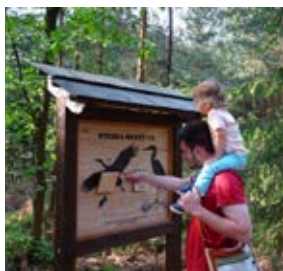
The easy 2 km route starts at the dam of Biříčka Pond and ends on the bank of Datlík Pond. The picturesque landscape of Hradec ponds is just the right setting for stories involving Water Sprites, Devils, talking fish and other fairy tale creatures invented by the fine artist and writer Marta Pohnerová. The statues of these characters line the entire trail. At the start of the route near Biříčka Pond you can make use of a public fireplace area.

## Forest Functions Educational Trail

The Forest Educational Trail presents the functions of a forest as a whole. The route starts at Písečnice - the forest asphalt path, just past the turn-off to Cesta myslivců (Gamekeepers' Path) Pond. The trail will take you to the U křivé lípy (Crooked Linden-tree) signpost, past Černá stráň (Black Slope) Nature Site, finishing on Podzásepská Forest Path, not far from Mazura Cottage. The nature trails aims to show the public that forests provide us not only with wood and fruit, but also have many other important functions that we are often unaware of.

## Path of Silhouettes

On the 500 m route you can find out if you are able to identify native Czech birds by their silhouettes. In addition, models of animals living in the City Woods are hiding among the trees along the path. The starting board is situated near Zděná bouda (Brick Hut) on Havranova pěšina (Rook's Path). On the last panel at Rytířské hradiště (Knights' Fortress) you can check if you have found all of them and also learn something about camouflage in the animal kingdom. At the beginning of the route at the first panel, download the Getting to Know Forest app and scan the QR codes.



## Dead Wood Educational Trail

You will find out what this expression means, what its importance in nature is, what organisms are linked to it, and what role it plays in the development of certain animal and plant species. The trail goes directly through the Sítovka Nature Site, situated on the yellow marked tourist route near Na Olšině Pond. It is also possible to descend to the trail from Podzásepská Forest Path, which leads from Hradečnice Asphalt Track to Mazura Cottages.

## Nature's Footsteps Trail

The trail presents to visitors information about selected animals living in the local forests and interesting facts about environmental topics. The trail starts at the rear part of the Stříbrný Rybník (Silver Pond) Campsite and goes through the forest to U Pytláka (at the Poacher) snack kiosk. The route is 1 km long and is also suitable for pushchairs. The trail consists of six fro-tage boards with interactive elements, near which keen eyes can find six models of the birds living in Czech nature. The trail is complemented with the Lesní svět (Forest life) app and a workbook with fun tasks, which can be obtained at the camsite reception or downloaded from the website.

## Asphalt Circuit

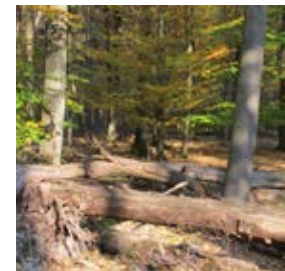
This 10.5 km route is also suitable for in-line skaters and offers pleasant trips in the beautiful countryside, several rest areas, including a sheltered fireplace area and outdoor exercising facilities, as well as the option to replenish one's strength at U Vlků (at the Wolf) and U Pytláka (at the Poacher) snack kiosks. Beginners can take advantage of the 0.8 km widened training stretch. The circuit starts at Zděná bouda (Brick Hut), where you can find panels with information about the route. You can also join the circuit at the Stříbrný rybník (Silver Pond) Leisure Resort.

## Bridle Path from Brick Hut

This route is less than 7 km and on your way you can take a look at Rytířské hradiště (Knights' Fortress) or stop off at Kříž and Česík Ponds. The actual path is marked with small yellow signs displaying a pictogram of a horse rider while in the tourist map it is indicated with a red dotted line. Apart from this bridle path, a route leading along the southern and eastern borders of the City Woods is also recommended for horse riding. The path is marked with a red dotted line in the tourist map and with letters HP on trees.

## Routes for Wheelchair Users

These routes are marked with an orange dashed line in the City Woods tourist map. The 3 km blue route starts at the terminal station of Bus No. 9 at Lesní hřbitov (Forest Cemetery), then heads for Vlčí jamy (Wolf's Pits) signpost and continues towards another signpost – U Dvou Šraňků, where it turns off to Výskyt Pond. The 11 km red route runs from the terminal station of Buses Nos. 1 and 2 in Nový Hradec Králové, along Přemyslova Street over the footbridge above the R 35 Road as far as the Vlčí jamy signpost, where it turns off to Svinary and continues from there to Výskyt Pond.



## Cycling in the Hradecko Region

### Hradec Králové City Woods

The city woods are criss-crossed by a number of marked cycle routes. More information can be found on pages 46 – 47. You can get a tourist map of the city woods at the Tourist Information Centre, at the Stříbrný rybník (Silver Pond) Campsite or just download it from the website [www.mestske-lesy.cz](http://www.mestske-lesy.cz).

### Cycle Route Hradec Králové – Kuks

The Elbe Cycle Route No. 2 is 1270 km long, from the source of the river all the way to the North Sea. A comfortable route leads from the city of Hradec Králové to the Baroque complex of Kuks. In the opposite direction, you can ride from Hradec Králové along the cycle track to Vysoká nad Labem, from where you can continue to Kunětická Hora Castle. Kuks Hospital is a unique Baroque complex of a former spa, a hospital with the Church of the Holy Trinity and the original pharmacy, founded at the end of the 17th century by František Antonín Špork. Along the route, you can visit chapel in Smiřice, a Baroque structure with a unique interior completed around 1711. The Josefov fortress from the 18th century, which is one of the most extensive underground defence systems in Europe, is also well worth viewing. Visitors should also see the lapidary with original sculptures by M. B. Braun. [www.labska-stezka.cz](http://www.labska-stezka.cz)

### Archaeological Cycle Route

One of the main attractions of the Hradecko Region is the Archeopark in Všeřaty, however, significant archaeological sites are also located in other parts of the region. You can get to know them by taking the educational archaeological cycle route. It starts at the Winter Stadium in Hradec Králové and ends at the Smiřice Railway Station. The route is 25 km long. It is also possible to connect to the Elbe Cycle Route, and do the whole round trip. On the way, there are 14 information boards with maps, reconstructions and artefacts placed at important archaeological sites of the Hradecko Region. The outdoor exhibition of the archeopark presents examples of prehistoric buildings. The indoor exhibition comprises several parts. [www.archeoparkvsestary.cz](http://www.archeoparkvsestary.cz)

### Chlum 1866 Educational Trails

On July 3rd 1866, the Chlum Hillock and its surroundings became the site of one of the largest battles of the 19th century in Europe. This area is criss-crossed by educational trails and recommended cycle routes with information boards that will familiarize you with interesting places and details of the battle, as well as with memorials and monuments that were established as a tribute to those who lost their lives here. In the area you will find educational trails and memorials, the 1866 War Museum as well as the observation tower. [www.koniggratz1866.eu](http://www.koniggratz1866.eu)

### Cyclo-buses

A cyclo-bus gives you the option to travel from Hradec Králové to the surrounding areas and back with your bike. For the current routes and timetables visit the Tourist Portal of Hradec Králové Region's website. [www.hkregion.cz](http://www.hkregion.cz)



## GUSTÍK LION INVITES CHILDREN to Hradec Králové and the Hradecko Region!

Let's have an adventure on the paddle steamer, discover the stars or play with the puppets.

CHILDREN'S RAILWAY

SILVER POND

LION ROUTES

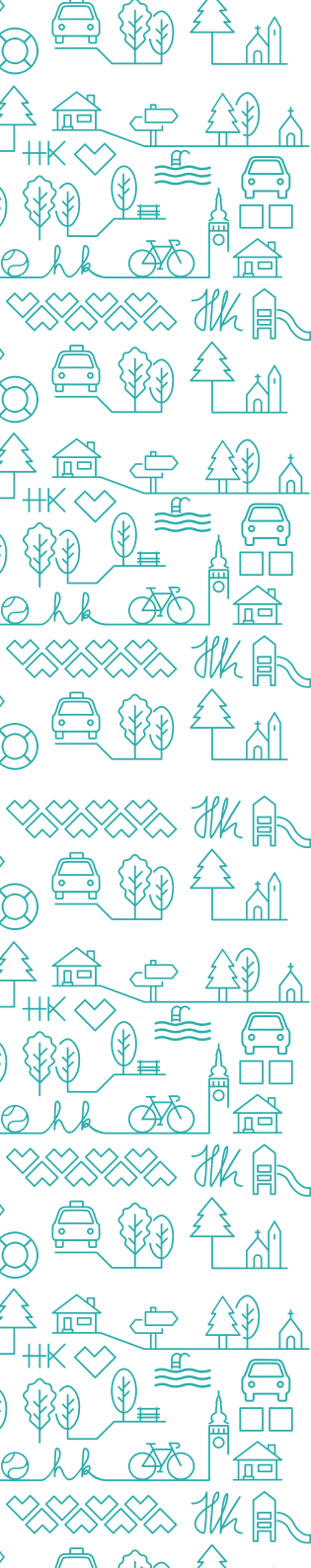
ARCHEOPARK VŠEŠTARY



[www.gustik.cz](http://www.gustik.cz)







### Tourist Information Center



## HRADEC KRÁLOVÉ

**Published by the Statutory City of Hradec Králové,**  
Department of Culture, Sports and Tourism,  
Československé armády 408, 500 02 Hradec Králové,  
in cooperation with the Hradec Cultural  
and Educational Society, s. r. o. in 2022,  
2nd updated edition.

Texts: Archives of the City of Hradec Králové and Hradec Cultural and Educational Society, s. r. o.,

In cooperation with: Department of Heritage  
Conservation of the Hradec Králové Municipal Authority,  
Museum of Eastern Bohemia in Hradec Králové, Hradec  
Králové City Woods a.s., Observatory and Planetarium in  
Hradec Králové, Civitas per Populi, o. p. s., Svatopluk  
Pastvřík, Miloš Nosek and Helena Rezková

Photo: Archives of the City of Hradec Králové, Miroslav Podhrázský, David Taneček, Ondřej Littera, Robert Průcha, Zdeněk Puš, Václav Jandourek, Miloš Nosek, Helena Rezková, Martin Elich

Map sources: GIS of the City of Hradec Králové and Hradec Králové City Woods a. s.

Translation: Monika Beková – Agentura EUROPE PRO

Design: FiftyFifty kreativní agentura s. r. o.

Print: fronte s. r. o.